



Student Visa and U.S. Higher Education

A U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad Face book Chat, held on

May 23, 2014 from 03:00pm – 04:00pm

Facebook Chat Transcript

US Vice Consul: Hello everyone! I'm here to take any questions you might have about student visas!

US Vice Consul: To find out more about the visa process at the Consulate, please watch our video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S44BrSsmu5A&list=UU3GTBfpG6LGrx9PIbC1uWig&index=3> **Visiting the U.S. Consulate, Hyderabad for a Visa Interview: What to Expect- Telugu**

Student: Hello Officer, What kind of financial docs are required, if I'm taking a education loan? Then I'll have bank loan sanction letter, what else is required.

US Vice Consul: Hello Avantika- There is no specific requirements for documents. You should bring whatever you think will help you explain your situation to the officer.

Student: Hello sir...! I'm going to apply for a student visa very soon but I have a doubt here is that my father has filed for my immigration and that case is still pending. So am I eligible for student visa? Will my immigration thing affects this?

US Vice Consul: Good afternoon to you, too! Having an outstanding immigrant petition does not prevent you from obtaining an F1 visa. If the officer asks you about it, you should be honest about your situation and explain your plans.

Student: I understand, but I heard that having a immigrant petition will make my chances low of getting an F1 visa, is that true?

US Vice Consul: Hello Shizan, Unfortunately, I cannot comment on specific cases. As I said, an immigrant petition is not ineligibility for a student visa. However, each applicant's case is different. Consular officers look at the totality of a student's situation during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You need to demonstrate to the officer that you have the intent to study and complete your program, that you have a credible plan to pay for your education, and that you have intent to return to your home country.

Student: Both my brother and Sister will be sponsoring for my studies as my parents are retired government employees. They are working in the US. Would this in any way affect my outcome? Kindly clarify.

US Vice Consul: Hello Vijay, Having siblings in the US is not ineligibility for a student visa. Consular officers look at the entirety of a student's situation during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You need to demonstrate to the officer that you have the intent to study and complete your program, that you have a credible plan to pay for your education, and that you have intent to return to your home country. Explaining what your siblings do and how they will help pay for your education may help you meet one of the criteria.

Student: hello sir, m 2012 pass out and m not working, will there be any problem for visa?

US Vice Consul: Hello Sanjana, Consular officers look at the entirety of a student's situation during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You need to demonstrate to

the officer that you have the intent to study and complete your program, that you have a credible plan to pay for your education, and that you have intent to return to your home country.

Student: actually, I have worked for 6 months in a small firm, I have experience certificate but no pay slips. If I show this certificate will it be ok?

US Vice Consul: Unfortunately, I cannot comment on specific cases. You should bring whatever documents you think will help you demonstrate your situation to the officer.

Student: Good evening officer. Is it allowed to schedule an interview for an F-1 visa in a different city from the one that we said we'd be applying from in our DS-160?

US Vice Consul: Hello - Yes, you are allowed to apply at a different post from the one you selected in your DS-160, as long as it's still in India.

Student: Afternoon sir, another query: I'm 2012 pass out; I'd applied for fall 2014. I've couple of admits, in the mean time I've done one small internship and I've served my time with a registered Nonprofit and I'm still a part of it. So, will it be taken into account during the interview?

US Vice Consul: Hello Avantika- Consular officers look at the entirety of a student's situation during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You need to demonstrate to the officer that you have the intent to study and complete your program, that you have a credible plan to pay for your education, and that you have intent to return to your home country.

Student: Hello officer understand that you judge the applicant based on the totality of an application, but is having a relative who is now a green card holder is that an disadvantage or is he/she considered to be potential immigrant.

US Vice Consul: Hi Niraj, As long as the applicant can meet the qualifications for a student visa, having a relative who is an LPR is not ineligibility. You need to demonstrate to the officer that you have the intent to study and complete your program, that you have a credible plan to pay for your education, and that you have intent to return to your home country.

Student: One of my friends has received his i20 from one of the university's but is waitlisted in another university. Considering the waitlisted case might go on up to July. Can we get his VISA stamped for the university which he has got admission and if he gets through the other one transfer?

US Vice Consul: As I said below, we recommend that students wait until they have all their I-20s before applying for a student visa. Questions about transferring are more for your university and for USCIS in the United States.

Student: Thanks for the reply Sir/Ma'am. Appreciate your time for this question..

Student: A very good afternoon sir my father is a green card holder in USA and he has filed for my immigration four years ago. I started the process for my masters in engineering for USA and in a few days I have to face the visa interview. Does the immigration process will turn out to be the reason for my rejection???

US Vice Consul: Good afternoon to you, too! Having a previous immigrant petition does not prevent you from obtaining an F1 visa. If the officer asks you about it, you should be honest about your situation and explain your plans.

Student: Does work experience play any role in getting visas? I've seen some previous were told to get some work experience and then apply for visa?

US Vice Consul: Consular officers look at the totality of a student's situation during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. Work experience can be part of that but it is not required.

Student: Good afternoon sir. I'm applying for this fall. Was worried regarding my passport expiry date. My passport expires in 3yrs. Will this be considered while visa stamping? Will my visa get restricted to 3yrs only? Are passport expiry and visa duration interrelated? Please clarify. Thanks, Karthik.

US Vice Consul: Hello Karthik, Passports are required to have a minimum of six months validity in order for us to place a visa inside. There is no relationship between the validity of the passport and the validity of a visa.

Student: Sir I want to complete my masters of forestry in US. How should I proceed forward?

US Vice Consul: Hello Bhupi- Your first step is to find a program you would like to apply to. One of the best resources is USIEF- the US India Education Fund. They have recently opened an office in Hyderabad. Their website is here: <http://www.usief.org.in/Hyderabad.aspx> www.usief.org.in

Student: Sir basically I am from Nepal and completing my bachelors of forestry from India. Can you suggest me websites to check out from there. Thank you.

Student: Hello Sir, What does * indicates on visa? Thanks & Regards

Student: Hello Sir. I had an M1 visa and I returned after completing a part of the course. My SEVIS records are current and had maintained my status. Now, I want to join a better school and finish the rest of the training. Would I be able to do that and do I need to pay SEVIS again or will i be treated as a continuing student?

US Vice Consul: I can't comment on specific cases, so your best option would be to talk to the international student office at the university you would like to attend. They should be able to help you with SEVIS-related questions specific to your situation.

US Vice Consul: Hello Harshita,

Student: Hello Officer I have gone for visa 4 times but it's was rejected, and i would like to try for visa during fall semester, please help me this time for visa approval officer.

US Vice Consul: Hi Raj- . Consular officers evaluate the totality of a student's situation, including their academic preparation for the proposed course of study, their intent to study while in the United States, and their ability to fund their program of study. You are the best judge of your profile - think about where you might be able to improve, in relation to these aspects, and focus on that.

Student: Thank you but I had few questions regarding it?

US Vice Consul: Hi Raj, You had a few questions regarding what specifically? I'm sorry; I don't think I understand your question.

Student: if we go with the same university from spring to fall the visa officers are denying the visa by saying please make the changes is it true?

US Vice Consul: Hi Raj, Consular officers do not make decisions based on the university you plan to attend. If you change universities between applications, you may be asked to explain why at your next

interview. However, simply changing which university you want to attend is not necessarily a change in your overall situation. Does that answer your question?

Student: oh. Thank u officer. And the last question is how can u judge a student in 10 sec weather he is suitable for approval or deny?

US Vice Consul: Interviews last longer than 10 seconds. They usually last, one to three minutes. The consular officer will ask you a number of questions designed to determine if an individual meets the qualifications for a given visa class.

US Vice Consul: Hai sir a very good morning to u, sir I'm going to apply for student visa sir I am nervous with my academic that I'm having 7 backlogs (14 attempts) in my second year in the same year it self-6 subjects due to my health problem got effected with jaundice, doctor suggested to take rest for more than two months it makes my academics go low please suggest me how to justify my problem.

US Vice Consul: Thanks for your question- the best policy is to tell the truth. All officers ask different questions- if you're asked about it just explain what happened and be honest.

Student: I have 6 backlogs and my IELTS is 5.5. I got conditional admit from UCM. Are there any chances for rejection my visa?

US Vice Consul: Hello Ajay- thank you for your question. The first step is to receive your I-20 form from the university. Once you have that, then you can schedule an appointment for a visa interview. Consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You need to demonstrate to the officer that you have the intent to study and complete your program, that you have a credible plan to pay for your education, and that you have intent to return to your home country.

US Vice Consul: Thank you all for your participation! Facebook F1 Friday will be back next week. Here's a bit of advice from the US Consulate-
Hyderabad: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMSYbOOI_Rk&list=UU3GTBfpG6LGrx9PIbC1uWig

[Apply Early For Your U.S. Visa www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

The U.S. Consulate, Hyderabad encourages you to apply early for your visa, and beat the rush!